Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 62 NUMBER 9

TOBACCO EXPORTS (Page 208)

GRAIN STOCKS (Page 212)

FOR RELEASE
MONDAY
FEBRUARY 26, 1951

CONTENTS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

The export of cotton from Burma has been prohibited. In recent years practically all of Burma's cotton production of around 30,000 to 40,000 bales annually has been exported to China. Harvesting is usually completed late in December or in January. A Government-owned spinning mill, the only one in Burma, usually operates almost entirely on 1,000 to 2,000 bales of imported American-type cotton. The ban on exports has been effective since January 10, 1951.

- - - - - - - - - - -

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

U.S. 1950 TOBACCO EXPORTS SLIGHTLY LOWER

United States exports of unmanufactured tobacco in 1950 totaled 476.2 million pounds (declared weight) with a declared valuation of 250.2 million dollars, according to the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce. The 1949 exports totaled 498.2 million pounds or 5 percent above 1950. Unmanufactured tobacco exports for 1949 were valued (declared value) at 252.0 million dollars. The 1948 exports totaled 426.6 million pounds valued at 214.5 million dollars.

During 1950 the United Kingdom took 132.1 million pounds or 28 percent of the total United States unmanufactured tobacco exports. This corresponds to 167.3 million pounds or 34 percent in 1949 and 167.0 million pounds or 34 percent in 1948. Germany ranked second as an export outlet for United States tobacco in 1950, taking 81.8 million pounds or 17 percent of the total and 86.8 million or 17 percent in 1949 and 26.4 million or 6 percent in 1948. The Netherlands took 32.2 million pounds or 7 percent in 1950; Belgium-Luxembourg 27.7 million or 6 percent, and the Philippine Republic 27.1 or about 5 percent of the total unmanufactured tobacco products. Australia took 4 percent, Ireland 3 percent, and Switzerland and Sweden 2 percent each during 1950. The remaining 26 percent went in varying quantities to numerous other countries.

Flue-cured leaf accounted for 380.9 million pounds or 80 percent of the 1950 exports of unmanufactured tobacco. This compares with 380.0 million pounds or 76 percent in 1949 and 342.7 million or 80 percent in 1948. The United Kingdom, the principal flue-cured market, took 130.5 million pounds or 34 percent in 1950, 163.8 million or 43 percent in 1949 and 165.7 million or 48 percent in 1948. Germany took 64.4 million pounds or 17 percent of the 1950 flue-cured leaf exports and 58.1 million or 15 percent in 1949 but only 20.2 million or 6 percent in 1948. Other principal flue-cured markets in 1950 were the Netherlands which took 23.4 million pounds; the Philippine Republic, 23.5 million; Belgium-Luxembourg, 19.2 million; Australia 17.6 million; Ireland 17.1 million; and Denmark, 10.7 million pounds. The remaining flue-cured was taken in relatively small quantities by numerous other foreign countries. Declared dollar value for the 1950 flue-cured leaf exports was 204.2 million dollars or 82 percent of the total unmanufactured tobacco exports. Total value of 1949 and 1948 flue-cured exports was 194.1 and 175.5 million dollars respectively.

Burley exports during 1950 totaled 37.5 million pounds or 8 percent of the year's total exports of unmanufactured tobacco. The exports of Burley in 1949 totaled 35.1 million pounds and in 1948 only 23.4 million pounds. Germany was the most important market for Burley during 1950, taking 11.6 million pounds. Belgium and Luxembourg ranked second taking 5.0 million pounds, Portugal third with 3.8 million, and the Netherlands fourth with 3.5 million pounds. Other export markets included

UNITED STATES: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco by principal countries of destination 1950 (declared weights) 1/

Country	Flue-cured	Burley	Kentucky-Tennessee fire-cured	Virginia fire-cured	Maryland	Green River	One-sucker	Black fat	Cigar wrapper shade grown	Cigar binder	Cigar filler	Perique	Trimmings, scrap, stems	Total
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United Kingdom	130,512	233	1,167	472	-	630	69	-	8	5	2/	24	18	133,132
France	3,295	422	4,730	54	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,512
Italy	1,809	10	770	14	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2,605
Netherlands	23,394	3,515	3,644	405	411	-	21	-	94	424	-	-	246	32,154
Spain	387	2/	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	111	-	-	-	528
Eire	17,108	-	414	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2/	-	17,536
Belgium and Luxemburg	19,188	4,980	1,907	54	292	259	425	-	112	413	97	-	21	27,748
Denmark	10,690	1,797	905	372	76	-	1	-	146	226	5	2	627	14,847
Norway	3,643	1,292	553	1,998	12	-	8	-	1	4	2/	27	164	7,702
Portugal	1,829	3,816	400	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	6,070
Sweden	6,288	2,920	2,530	615	-	1	-	-	-	27	-	-	1,301	13,682
Switzerland	5,516	623	2,726	315	5,037	-	-	-	29	19	27	1	79	14,372
Germany	54,364	11,567	846	332	414	-	69	-	2,375	1,150	191	6	528	81,842
Austria	4,692	1,126	-	272	-	-	-	-	148	240	-	5	-	6,483
Canada	58	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	301	53	-	-	-	472
Mexico	144	1,875	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	35	-	-	-	2,057
Haiti	66	32	4	-	-	12	-	2	2/	10	-	-	-	126
Argentina	600	102	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	704
British Guiana	265	-	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	317
Brazil	-	-	41	-	-	-	-	-	103	1	-	-	-	145
Philippine Republic	23,500	846	-	1,708	228	-	-	-	32	-	197	-	581	27,092
Hong Kong	3,908	-	-	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200	5,160
China	136	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	199	335
Australia	17,646	156	-	292	16	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	18,118
New Zealand	6,195	-	142	154	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,491
Indonesia	7,438	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,442
Thailand	4,411	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,411
British West Africa:														
Nigeria	898	-	32	-	-	5	1,137	1,528	-	-	-	-	-	3,600
Gold Coast	2	-	239	5	-	1	31	1,043	-	-	-	-	-	1,321
Other	-	-	4	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
French Africa:														
Algeria and Tunisia	248	66	442	5	-	-	69	-	8	-	568	-	-	1,406
Other	238	-	829	70	-	12	97	582	2/	-	-	-	-	1,828
Egypt	2,561	1,081	355	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,997
All others	19,903	1,062	1,214	206	164	289	66	418	91	30	11	13	434	23,901
Total	380,932	37,521	24,010	7,409	6,691	1,221	1,993	3,598	3,450	2,755	1,096	78	5,398	476,152
Declared value, 1,000 dollars	204,223	15,147	9,841	3,403	4,400	548	1,108	2,126	6,148	2,336	407	61	406	250,154

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Less than 500 pounds.

Compiled in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations from records of the Bureau of the Census.

Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Australia, Mexico, Egypt and the Philippine Republic. Declared dollar value for Burley leaf exports during 1950 was over 15.1 million dollars, in 1949 it was 14.5 million dollars and in 1948 it was 10.4 million dollars.

Kentucky and Tennessee fire-cured exports for 1950 totaled 24.0 million as compared to 28.5 million pounds in 1949 and 20.0 million in 1948. France was the most important market in 1950 taking 4.7 million pounds. The Netherlands took 3.6 million pounds in 1950, Switzerland 2.7 million and Sweden 2.5 million pounds. The remaining 10.5 million pounds were taken in varying quantities by many other foreign countries. The declared dollar value of 1950 exports of Kentucky and Tennessee fire-cured totaled 9.8 million dollars as compared to 10.5 in 1949 and 8.3 million dollars in 1948. Virginia fire-cured exports totaled 7.4 million pounds valued at 3.4 million dollars in 1950. This corresponds to 4.7 million pounds valued at 2.3 million dollars in 1949 and 7.7 million pounds valued at 3.7 million dollars in 1948. Norway and the Philippine Republic were the most important markets for Virginia fire-cured leaf in 1950, taking 2.0 million pounds and 1.7 million pounds, respectively. The majority of the remaining was taken by Western European countries.

Exports of Maryland leaf in 1950 were 6.7 million pounds valued at 4.4 million dollars. The 1950 totals are comparable to the 1949 figures of 7.9 million pounds valued at 4.8 million dollars and also the 1948 figures of 7.8 million pounds and 4.4 million dollars. The 1950 exports of Maryland leaf were primarily destined for Switzerland which took 5.0 million pounds or 75 percent of the total.

The 1950 exports of One Sucker leaf totaling 2.0 million pounds valued at 1.1 million dollars was primarily shipped to Nigeria, the largest single market for this type in 1950, which took 1.1 million pounds. Belgium and Luxembourg, the second largest One Sucker market, took almost 0.5 million pounds. Green River exports amounted to 1.2 million pounds valued at about $500,000 in 1950. This was quite a decline when compared to the 1949 total of 3.1 million pounds valued at over 1 million dollars, but is an increase when compared to 800,000 pounds valued at $277,000 exported in 1948. The United Kingdom took more than 50 percent of the 1950 Green River leaf exports and the Netherlands about another 25 percent of the total. The 1950 Black-Fat exports totaled 3.6 million pounds valued at 2.2 million and were primarily destined for British West Africa (Nigeria 1.5 million pounds and the Gold Coast 1.0 million pounds).

Cigar-leaf exports during 1950 amounted to 7.3 million pounds valued at 8.9 million dollars which is a sizeable decline when compared to 22.4 million pounds valued at 18.8 million dollars in 1949 but an increase over the 1948 total of 6.1 million pounds valued at 7.5 million dollars. Of the total cigar leaf exported in 1950 cigar wrapper leaf constituted about 3.4 million pounds, cigar binder about 2.8 million and cigar filler 1.1 million pounds. In declared dollar

dollar value of cigar leaf for 1950, cigar wrapper constituted 69 percent of the total, cigar binder 26 percent and cigar filler 5 percent. Germany took 69 percent or 2.4 million pounds of the 1950 wrapper leaf. Most of the remaining 31 percent or 1.1 million pounds of wrapper was taken by other European countries. Germany took 49 percent or 1.2 million pounds of cigar binder leaf in 1950. Most of the remaining 51 percent was taken by other European countries including the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium and Luxembourg, Denmark, Austria and others. Tunisia and Algeria took 52 percent of the 1950 cigar filler exports, the Philippine Republic 18 percent and Germany 17 percent.

UNITED STATES: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco (declared weights) 1950 with comparisons

Type	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950 1/
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Flue-cured	312,889	545,705	400,096	342,692	379,938	380,932
Burley	10,635	35,125	43,010	23,391	35,492	37,521
Kentucky-Tennessee fire-cured	48,959	30,586	21,261	19,920	28,532	24,010
Virginia fire-cured	9,049	7,743	7,635	7,652	4,659	7,409
Maryland	5,390	6,397	6,316	7,825	7,912	6,691
Green River	956	2,517	1,531	802	3,153	1,221
One sucker	3,019	3,731	1,951	1,192	6,607	1,993
Black fat	8,867	5,654	4,929	5,071	4,810	3,598
Cigar wrapper shade grown	)				3,161	3,450
Cigar binder	) 1,269	4,975	6,117	6,115	9,040	2,755
Cigar filler	)				10,112	1,096
Perique	132	176	140	62	62	78
Trimmings, scrap, stems	19,632	20,553	14,190	11,887	5,122	5,398
Total	420,797	663,162	507,176	426,608	498,190	476,152
Declared value, 1,000 dollars	127,798	351,831	270,687	214,526	251,948	250,154

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from records of the Bureau of the Census.

The remaining exports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1950 was made up of 78,000 pounds of Perique valued at $61,000 and 5.4 million pounds of trimmings, scraps, and stems valued at $406,000. Norway and the United Kingdom took 27,000 and 24,000 pounds of Perique, respectively, during 1950. The remaining 27,000 pounds was taken in varying quantities by many other countries. Sweden and Hong Kong took 1.3 and 1.2 million pounds of trimmings, scrap, and stems, respectively, during 1950. Other countries receiving trimmings, scrap and stems were Belgium and Luxembourg 627,000 pounds, Germany 528,000, the Philippine Republic 581,000, the Netherlands 246,000 and China 199,000 pounds. -- By Claude E. Dobbins.

GRAIN SUPPLIES IN EXPORTING COUNTRIES SHOW LITTLE CHANGE

Grain supplies in the 4 principal exporting countries on January 1, 1951 continue large, amounting to about 165 million short tons, according to a preliminary estimate by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. This would be slightly above the high level of the past 2 years and about 17 percent above the average of 141 million tons for the past 5 years. The increase is in small grain reserves in North America, with those increases more than offsetting a decline from the record corn holdings of January 1950.

Stocks of all small grains show substantial increases over the comparatively high level of January 1, 1950, as well as increases over the average of the past 5 years. Wheat and oats together account for about 75 percent of the increase, compared with a year ago. Larger barley stocks contributed most of the remaining increase. Corn stocks, though not up to the record 1950 figure, are still well above the 1946-50 average, as a result of the high level in the United States. It should be noted that larger wheat stocks include considerable quantities of low-grade wheat in Canada. Much of this grain is unsuitable for milling, and the total availability of contract grade wheat for export from that country is reduced accordingly. Australia's total also includes a larger proportion of below-standard quality wheat than usual.

Total wheat stocks in these exporting countries on January 1 are estimated at 1,848 million bushels, about 10 percent larger than stocks a year earlier. Exports of wheat and flour from the 4 countries during the calendar year 1950 were at the comparatively low figure of 670 million bushels. A little less than half of that amount moved during the second half of the calendar year. Exports are expected to move at an increased rate in the months ahead, with many importing countries building up emergency reserves.

GRAINS: Estimated supplies in the principal exporting countries, January 1, 1944-1951 1/

Country and year	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats 2/	Corn	Total
	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	1,000 short tons
United States						
1944	818	42	217	751	1,986	98,548
1945	828	26	213	784	2,124	102,696
1946	682	13	192	1,065	1,904	95,784
1947	642	9	176	934	2,208	100,504
1948	802	14	188	780	1,556	85,012
1949	868	17	231	975	2,641	121,608
1950	909	17	193	881	2,806	125,042
Average 1946-50	781	14	196	927	2,223	105,590
1951 3/	998	19	243	969	2,664	126,400
Canada						
1944	692	14	181	427	4/	32,755
1945	592	8	140	395	4/	28,059
1946	345	3	100	280	4/	17,594
1947	340	4	110	295	4/	17,967
1948	300	5	115	225	4/	15,725
1949	335	18	115	265	4/	17,819
1950	325	12	90	240	4/	16,326
Average 1946-50	329	8	106	261	4/	17,086
1951 3/	440	13	125	320	4/	22,004
Argentina						
1944	445	19	35	68	25	16,510
1945	330	13	35	90	130	16,184
1946	225	15	53	72	40	10,714
1947	240	24	60	55	40	11,312
1948	270	26	55	60	90	13,628
1949	245	30	35	75	95	12,890
1950	230	20	25	70	70	11,140
Average 1946-50	242	23	46	66	67	11,937
1951 3/	200	25	30	65	10	8,740
Australia						
1944	251	4/	8	23	4/	8,090
1945	112	4/	6	12	4/	3,696
1946	145	4/	10	30	4/	5,070
1947	130	4/	13	25	4/	4,612
1948	220	4/	20	50	4/	7,880
1949	205	4/	15	30	4/	6,990
1950	225	4/	20	40	4/	7,870
Average 1946-50	185	4/	16	35	4/	6,484
1951 3/	210	4/	25	35	4/	7,460
Total						
1944	2,206	75	441	1,269	2,011	155,903
1945	1,862	47	394	1,281	2,254	150,635
1946	1,397	31	355	1,447	1,944	129,162
1947	1,352	37	359	1,309	2,248	134,395
1948	1,592	45	378	1,115	1,646	122,245
1949	1,653	65	396	1,345	2,736	159,307
1950	1,689	49	328	1,231	2,876	160,378
Average 1946-50	1,537	45	364	1,289	2,290	141,097
1951 3/	1,848	57	423	1,389	2,674	164,604

1/ Data for Northern Hemisphere countries represent January 1 stocks; estimates for Southern Hemisphere countries include the new crop of small grains as well as stocks of old grain on January 1. 2/ Canadian oats reported in bushels of 34 pounds; in other countries, bushels of 32 pounds. 3/ Preliminary estimates. 4/ Production small and supplies believed to be negligible.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics, reports of United States foreign service officers, or other information.

The surplus from the harvest recently completed in Argentina and Australia will be in position for export, but Southern Hemisphere supplies of wheat are less than those of a year ago. Supplies considered in this survey include estimates for the harvest of small grains nearing completion during January in Argentina and Australia, as well as the stocks of old grain remaining from preceding harvests. The Argentine corn supply, however, like supplies of all grains in Northern Hemisphere countries, is exclusively old-crop grain remaining from past harvests. (The corn harvest in Argentina normally gets actively under way in April.)

Stocks of the 5 grains in the United States on January 1 were 126.4 million tons, more than three-fourths of the total for the 4 countries combined. This is slightly above the stocks of a year ago, and is about 20 percent above the average of the past 5 years. Near-record stocks of small grains more than offset a 5 percent reduction from the record corn stocks of January 1, 1950. A higher disappearance rate is expected to result in a substantial reduction in the present high level of grain stocks, particularly corn, in the United States. Of the total corn stocks, about 2.2 billion bushels remained on farms. The off-farm supply of about 504 million bushels is the largest of record principally because of the nearly 400 million bushels owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Grain stocks in Canada, estimated at 22 million short tons, were about a third larger than on January 1, 1950 and were also well above the average of the past 5 years. Grain production, though good, fell below early-season expectations of near-record yields. Severe frosts in mid-August and just before harvest reduced quality as well as yields of grain. As a consequence, the supply of millable wheat available for export for the current season is not as large as the surplus from the smaller supply of 1949-50.

Supplies in Argentina on January 1 are estimated at 8.7 million short tons, the smallest stocks of any recent year. Moderate declines are indicated for wheat and oats. The corn stocks, however, are sharply below last year's level. The stocks on hand from previous crops and from the very small outturn in 1950 are reported to be negligible. The crop of 33 million bushels reported harvested beginning April 1950 was the smallest of record. The outlook for the coming harvest is for about average yields from an area that continues sharply below average. If present prospects materialize about 60 million bushels of corn may be available for export during the latter part of 1951.

In Australia grain supplies, estimated at 7.5 million tons on January 1, were about 5 percent below the high level of 1950, but were still somewhat above average. Substantial carry-over of wheat maintained the supply near the high level of the past 3 years, despite a smaller production. The wheat harvest completed in January is estimated at 185 million bushels, compared with last year's harvest of 218 million. — By Judith E. Downey, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

NETHERLANDS CATTLE AND HOG NUMBERS CONTINUE UPWARD

Cattle numbers in the Netherlands as of December 1950, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics, were about 6 percent larger than a year earlier and exceeded the 1940 level by more than 9 percent. The number of milk cows and of cattle 2 years and over showed increases of 2 and 3 percent, respectively, over December 1949. The largest increase, approximately 11 percent, took place in the number of calves under 2 years, indicating a probable increase in cattle numbers for the forthcoming year.

NETHERLANDS: Number of cattle and hogs, by classes, December, 1950, with comparisons

Classification	1940	1947	1948	1949	1950 1/
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Cattle:					
Less than 1 year	479	436	451	522	568
From 1-2 years	399	294	347	375	431
2 years and older	59	68	98	95	98
Milk cows	1,439	1,269	1,362	1,484	1,521
Bulls 1 year and older	22	15	19	21	20
Feeder cattle	45	8	12	20	32
Total cattle	2,443	2,090	2,289	2,517	2,671
Hogs:					
Pigs less than 25 kilograms 2/	175	95	137	576	596
25-60 kilograms	594	392	428	488	716
60-95 kilograms	185	139	142	235	355
95-150 kilograms	79	123	158	164	241
Over 150 kilograms	11	25	50	49	51
Feeder sows	18	32	20	26	35
Total feeder hogs	887	711	798	962	1,398
Bred sows	64	63	111	140	154
Total sows	120	128	220	254	276
Boars	4	3	3	3	3
Total hogs	1,186	937	1,158	1,795	2,273

1/ Preliminary. 2/ One kilogram equals 2.2046 pounds.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled from official sources.

Hog numbers in December 1950 were approximately 27 percent larger than comparable 1949 estimates and 19 percent above the 1940 level. The total number of feeder pigs exceeded December 1949 by 45 percent. With total bred sow numbers up by 10 percent, the prospects seem favorable for a further rise in hog production, if the hog-feed ratio remains favorable for producers.

NEW ZEALAND MEAT
SHIPMENTS DEFERRED

Official sources reported in early February that only token shipments of meat to the United States and Canada would go forward this year. The modification of the original plan (see Foreign Crops and Markets, January 22, 1951) to send 3,600 and 1,400 tons (8,000,000 and 3,000,000 pounds), respectively, to those countries resulted, according to the announcements, from delays in completing shipping arrangements. Such delays would prevent the meat from arriving at the best time of the year.

Although the quantity of the meat involved is small the political impact of shipping meat to North America, in view of the acute shortage in the United Kingdom, was an important consideration.

The present plan is to send the firms designated as selling agents only 50 tons (112,000 pounds) each this year as a token or test shipment. The Meat Board hopes to pursue next season the development of a limited market in the two countries.

U. S. IMPORTS OF CANADIAN
CATTLE HIGHER IN 1950

Cattle imports into the United States from Canada in 1950, according to official United States trade data, were about 6 percent above the preceding year and considerably larger than the prewar years. The 1950 imports, however, were slightly below those of 1948, when Canada, in August, removed the embargo on exports of live cattle to the United States.

At the present time, Canada is our only source of cattle imports (excluding purebred), as the Mexican border has been closed to cattle imports from that country since the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in December 1946.

During 1950 imports of cattle and calves in the 200-699 weight group (probably feeders) made up about 40 percent of the total, rising 42 percent above 1949 and almost doubling 1948 imports. Imports of breeding stock in 1950 also showed an increase of about 6 percent above 1949. On the other hand, decreases occurred in all other classes during 1950. Dairy stock dropped 5 percent, calves under 200 pounds fell off 6 percent, and other cattle of 700 pounds and over declined by 11 percent.

UNITED STATES: Imports of live cattle from Canada, free and dutiable, calendar years 1936-39, 1948, 1949, and preliminary 1950

Year	Dutiable						Total dutiable cattle	Pure-bred (free)	Total cattle
	700 pounds and over			Up to 700 pounds					
	Dairy	Other	Total	Under 200 lbs. 1/	200-699 lbs. 2/	Total			
	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head
1936.....	6,686	136,533	143,219	55,695	35,149	90,844	234,063	10,346	244,409
1937.....	6,724	157,467	164,191	80,792	50,355	131,147	295,338	11,350	306,688
1938.....	7,442	75,529	82,971	45,645	9,147	54,792	137,763	9,080	146,843
1939.....	8,570	172,753	181,323	81,832	11,229	93,061	274,384	9,599	283,983
1948.....	84,275	214,645	298,920	23,571	96,335	119,906	418,826	42,853	461,679
1949.....	49,061	194,916	243,977	41,535	126,614	168,149	412,126	21,332	433,458
1950.....	46,591	173,000	219,591	38,985	179,709	218,694	438,285	22,610	460,895

1/ Under 175 pounds for years 1936-38. 2/ 175 to 699 pounds for years 1936-38.

Compiled from Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States and official records of the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

LIBERIAN POULTRY
SITUATION

Although poultry numbers in Liberia in 1950 increased about 10 percent above 1949 levels, poultry products continued short of demand. During 1950 about 1,000 dozen eggs and about 4,000 pounds of dressed poultry were imported from the United States to supplement local production.

The increase in flocks during 1950 is largely attributed to the poultry program of the Liberian Department of Agriculture and Commerce in cooperation with the United States Economic Mission. In 1949, R.O.P. New Hampshire Reds, Barred Plymouth Rocks, and white Leghorns were imported from the United States. From the 1950 hatchings of these birds, more than 5,000 day old baby chicks were sold to farmers at nominal prices. About a third of these chicks came into production before the end of 1950 and large size eggs laid by some of them were sold in quantity for $1.00 per dozen during the holiday season. The interest aroused by comparison of these large eggs with the undersized native eggs is expected to stimulate poultry production further in 1951.

If the hatching program continues at the present rate, poultry production should be equal to demand within the next two years.

POULTRY RAISING FOR TABLE USE
DEVELOPING IN AUSTRALIA

Poultry raising for table use is developing into an important industry in Australia. The greatly increased demand from the United Kingdom since 1946 and the relatively high prices paid for poultry have been contributing factors in the growth from what until recent years was considered a side line of egg production into an important branch of farming.

Export figures show the increasing quantities of Australian poultry for table use which have been sold during the past several years. Even though United Kingdom trade preference is changing from boiler fowls to prime chickens and turkeys, there is a strong demand for birds of all classifications for both the local and the export markets in the current season.

(See accompanying table on following page)

Australia:-Exports of poultry, 1938-39 and 1947-48; 1948-49 and 1949-50

Classification	1938-39	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50
	(Thousands)	(Thousands)	(Thousands)	(Thousands)
Ducks	5	184	280	540
Fowls	15	3,307	4,394	4,905
Turkeys	23	248	305	320
Other poultry	1	2	7	7
Total	44	3,741	4,986	5,772

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

U.S. RICE EXPORTS DECREASE IN 1950

Exports of United States rice during 1950 totaled 10,851,000 bags (100 pounds), a decline of 5 percent from the record of 11,370,000 bags in the preceding year. Consignments to Cuba of 6,766,000 bags were the largest on record, representing more than 60 percent of total exports. Shipments of 1,521,000 bags to Japan, the market ranking next in importance, equalled 14 percent of the total deliveries.

Rice exports to European countries, however, declined 227,000 bags, or 25 percent, from 1949. Of the 673,000 bags exported, 307,000 were shipped to Greece; 217,000 to Belgium and Luxembourg; 120,000 to Switzerland, and 29,000 to other Europe. Exports to Canada of 592,000 bags of rough rice (385,000 bags in terms of milled) and 65,000 bags of milled rice also were smaller than 1949 exports of 744,000 bags of rough rice (484,000 milled) and 21,000 bags of milled rice.

The total 1950 rice exports by classes of 10,851,000 bags were comprised of the following (1,000 bags): rice, milled, containing more than 25 percent whole kernels, 9,627; rice, milled, containing not more than 25 percent whole kernels, 822; and rough rice 619 (402 in terms of milled converted at 65 percent). These compared with 1949 exports of 11,369,000 bags, as follows (1,000 bags): containing more than 25 percent whole kernels, 9,520; containing not more than 25 percent whole kernels, 1,360, and rough rice 752 (489 milled).

UNITED STATES: Rice exports to specified countries, average 1936-40, annual 1946-50 1/

Country and continent	Average 1936-40	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950 2/
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Europe	390	100	10	370	900	673
Cuba	1,680	2,630	7,380	4,280	5,940	6,766
Canada	140	250	470	320	500	450
Venezuela	3/	4/	4/	10	170	258
Br. West Indies	4/	40	40	120	210	33
Philippines	4/	3,260	1,140	0	1,270	1
China	3/	1,050	270	2,150	690	0
Indonesia	3/	250	4/	640	1,120	874
Japan	3/	0	0	490	0	1,521
Other countries	140	150	320	310	570	275
Total	2,350	7,730	9,630	8,690	11,370	10,851

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice, and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ If any, included in "other countries." 4/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Bureau of the Census.

December 1950 exports in terms of milled rice totaled 779,000 bags to the following countries (1,000 bags): Cuba, 663; Canada, 86; Venezuela, 16; British West Indies, 3; Japan, 1; Switzerland, 1; and other countries, 9. Total exports from the United States 1950 rice crop by months up to December were as follows (1,000 bags); August, 834; September, 1,626; October, 1,073; and November, 819, bringing the August-December deliveries to 5,131,000 bags. These compared with exports of 8,500,000 bags during the corresponding period of the preceding year.

ECUADORAN RICE EXPORTS UP:
LARGER CROP FORECAST IN 1951

Rice exports of 140 million pounds from Ecuador in 1950 were at a record level, according to a report from A.H. Lester, American Consul, Guayaquil. Permits were not granted for rice of the 1950 crop for more than 61 million pounds, but stocks held over from the preceding year resulted in exports in 1950 double those of 1949.

ECUADOR: Rice exports by country of destination, average 1937-41, annual 1947-50

Country of destination	Average 1937-41	1947	1948	1949 1/	1950 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Cuba	2	12	25	1	0
Peru	13	0	10	0	80
Venezuela	6	49	12	14	29
Colombia	4	13	2	2/	5
Panama	2	4	7	0	2
Jamaica	0	7	0	3	11
Philippines	0	0	45	41	0
India	0	38	0	0	0
Indonesia	0	0	15	6	0
Dominican Republic	0	5	5	0	0
Others	4	11	18	3	13
Total	31	139	139	68	140

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Compiled from official sources.

Production in 1950 was the smallest in several years. Two factors accounted for this decrease: a reduction in acreage because of the expectation at planting time of the continuation of low market prices, and unfavorable weather, particularly drought conditions, during the growing season.

The forecast of the 1951 crop is substantially larger, from 310 to 375 million pounds of rough rice (200-245 million pounds milled) compared with 210 million pounds (136 million pounds) in 1950. The acreage of the main crop, planted in February and harvested from May to August, is estimated to have increased approximately 40 percent. Higher world prices stimulated planting, and credit to producers apparently increased substantially in comparison with 1950. It is not expected that mechanized operations will affect yields per acre significantly, but because of adequate rainfall they should improve in 1951.

Current export prices are indicated as equivalent to $9.25 per 100 pounds f.o.b. Guayaquil, but no Ecuadoran rice can be offered until the new crop is marketed. The quota of 61 million pounds as a maximum for export from the 1950 crop was not increased, but, despite this measure, local prices have risen, apparently in line with prices on the world market. Rice milled for local consumption during the final quarter of 1950 were between $7.76 and $7.89 per 100 pounds for Fortuna Flor grade and $7.63 to $7.69 for Corriente, and by the end of January 1951 rose to $8.22 and $7.76 to $7.82, respectively.

TOBACCO

BRITISH EAST AFRICA'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION INCREASED

British East Africa's 1950 tobacco production is estimated over 15 percent above the 1949 harvest according to R.M. Schneider, Vice Consul, American Consulate, Nairobi.

The British East African countries' (Tanganyika, Uganda, and Kenya) 1950 leaf harvest is estimated at approximately 10.8 million pounds. This corresponds to about 9.2 million pounds in 1949 and about 7.7 million pounds in 1948. The principal tobacco producing countries in British East Africa are Uganda and Tanganyika which produced about 4.9 million pounds each in 1950 and 4.4 and 4.0 million pounds respectively in 1949. The Crown Colony of Kenya produced about 1.0 million pounds in 1950 and 810,000 pounds in 1949.

Uganda produced 3.2 million pounds of fire-cured leaf in 1950 as compared to about 2.3 million pounds in 1949; flue-cured production for 1950 totaled 150,000 pounds as compared to 134,400 pounds in 1949. Air-cured production for 1950 totaled 380,000 pounds as compared to 255,360 pounds in 1949. Leaf for nicotine production in 1950 totaled 1.2 million pounds as compared to 1.7 million in 1949.

Tanganyika produced 2.2 million pounds of fire-cured leaf during 1950 as compared to 2.3 million pounds in 1949. Flue-cured production was 2.6 million pounds in 1950 as compared to 1.7 in 1949. The sharp increase in Tanganyika flue-cured production is a result of European development in the Territory.

No information is available as to production by type of leaf for Kenya, the other British East African Province.

FATS AND OILS

FRANCE'S VEGETABLE OIL SUPPLY POSITION UNFAVORABLE

France's vegetable oil supply position in 1951 is a source of great concern as far as fluid oils are concerned and very uncertain with respect to hard oils, reports L.S. Stephenson, American Embassy, Paris. Stocks of fluid oil on March 1, 1951, are not expected to exceed 22,000 short tons or less than the average consumption for one month-estimated at 23,000 tons. Because of the extremely high prices that are being asked for peanuts in French West Africa, following the abolition of all price controls, France may obtain at least part of her required vegetable oilseeds from the United States. The general belief is that if France is able to make some purchases in the United States, prices in French West Africa will drop to the level of world prices.

Stocks of hard oils as of mid-January did not exceed one month's supply. About half of the palm kernel production from French Overseas Territories was purchased by Germany, after the freeing of trade between OEEC (Organization for European Economic Cooperation) countries. And France, as of mid-January, had earmarked no dollars for the purchase of copra from the Philippines, according to French officials.

As a result of this difficult supply position, France again may have to resort to stricter controls as regards both marketing and prices.

The 282,580 acres seeded to winter rapeseed in France for harvest in 1951 is a slight increase over the 280,740 acres planted a year earlier, according to the official estimates of January 1, 1951.

Domestic oilseed production in 1950 totaled 171,730 tons, or 16 percent less than in 1949. The decrease, particularly in the case of rapeseed, is attributed to storm and insect damage which reduced yields.

FRANCE: Oilseed acreage and production, 1950 with comparisons

Crop	Area			Production		
	Average 1930-39	1949	1950 1/	Average 1930-39	1949	1950 1/
	Acres			Short tons		
Rapeseed	33,754	287,834	273,913	16,904	157,280	137,271
Poppy seed	442	8,419	5,031	179	2,234	1,600
Sunflower seed	2/	24,950	18,557	2/	9,727	10,210
Others	2/	130,923	62,296	2/	35,217	22,649
Total	34,196	452,126	359,797	17,083	204,458	171,730

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Not available.

American Embassy, Paris.

Official estimates of 1950 flaxseed production are not yet available. The flax area, exclusive of the approximately 2,470 acres planted for seed only, was estimated at 98,840 acres against 93,260 in 1949. Yields are believed to have been slightly higher than in 1949, and production, therefore, should be somewhat higher than the 507,845 bushels of seed produced in 1949.

Olive oil production in 1950 was not expected to exceed 5,000 tons because of dacus fly damage. In 1949 output reached 10,000 tons. A credit of 9.5 million francs ($27,140) has been earmarked for the payment of subsidies to French producers of olive oil to help them improve and reconstitute their plantations. The subsidies per tree

announced in December 1950 are as follows: for regeneration or grafting, 16.58 francs (4.7 cents) and for new plantings-33.16 (9.5 cents). These subsidies are considered inadequate by producers, who contend that the cost of planting a new tree is at least 250 francs (70 cents) and they, therefore, ask for a subsidy of 80 francs (23 cents).

Retail prices of selected fats and oils in January 1951 were reported as follows: lard, 360 francs per kilogram (46.65 cents per pound); margarine, 300-308 francs (38.88-39.90 cents); peanut oil, 268 francs per liter (38.64 cents); and olive oil 425 francs (61.28 cents).

GOLD COAST PALM KERNEL AND COPRA
PRODUCER PRICES INCREASED

Producer prices of palm kernels and copra in the Gold Coast were increased as of January 1, 1951, according to an announcement of the Agricultural Produce Marketing Board reported by Hyman Bloom, American Consulate, Accra. The palm kernel price was increased from 11 shillings ($1.54) to 16 shillings ($2.24) a load. In addition, the Board will pay a bonus of £ 1 ($2.80) a long ton to licensed buying agents for all parcels of palm kernels offered for export when the admixture content of faulty kernels is 5 percent or less. The allowable admixture is 10 percent at present, but it is expected to be reduced to 5 percent in about a year's time.

The producer price of copra was raised from 30 shillings ($4.20) to 40 shillings ($5.60) per hundredweight (112 pounds).

Small increases in licensed buying agents' allowances were also announced. These amount to £ 6-14-10 ($18.88) a net long ton for palm kernels and £ 7-3-9 ($20.12) for copra. On the basis of the new producer prices, licensed buying agents will be paid £ 29-17-4 ($83.63) a net ton for palm kernels and £ 40 ($112.00) for copra, plus the buying allowances listed above.

VENEZUELA SOAP MAKERS
TO PURCHASE SOAP STOCKS

Venezuela soap makers, in an agreement with the Banco Agricola y Pecuario and the Ministry of Development were, as of January 23, to purchase immediately half of the 660 short tons of tallow that had been held by the Bank for over a year, according to J. H. Kempton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Caracas.

The agreement involved a price reduction from 1.80 to 1.50 bolivares per kilogram (24.5 to 20.4 cents per pound) and some other concessions on the part of the Bank that are still under discussion.

Cancellation of all tallow import licenses issued from August was announced by the Ministry of Development for the protection of soap makers. Imports will not be permitted until the entire stock of tallow owned by the Bank is liquidated. The soap industry obligates itself to use this stock at the rate of 5.5 tons daily.

U.S. TRADE IN FATS AND OILS IN 1950 AGAIN LARGE

The United States in 1950 again engaged in a large volume of trade in fats, oils, and oilseeds. The total 1950 volume of imports and exports, both in terms of oil, was nearly equal to that of 1949. However, imports in terms of oil were up somewhat from 1949, while exports were down. Spirited activity in fats-and-oils movements developed after the outbreak of war in Korea, and particularly in the closing months of the year. And the United States--like several other Nations--took steps to procure, or augment, its supplies of fats and oils most needed should war break out in other world areas and availabilities be cut off.

UNITED STATES: Imports 1/ of specified fats and oils, 1950 with comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39 2/	1948	1949 3/	1950 3/
Babassu kernels	1,000 lbs.	4/	61,921	46,591	32,811
Babassu oil	" "	5/ 346	3,082	3,565	18,220
Castor beans	" "	132,924	302,511	289,936	262,227
Castor oil	" "	226	2,441	10,618	46,590
Flaxseed	1,000 bu.	18,470	1,066	148	2
Linseed oil	1,000 lbs.	713	3,959	1,317	69
Copra	Short tons	229,840	448,862	428,230	465,128
Coconut oil	1,000 lbs.	342,715	109,096	107,860	137,744
Oiticica oil	" "	5/ 7,499	17,558	8,940	13,373
Olive oil:					
Edible	" "	62,811	36,101	20,048	79,288
Inedible	" "	35,448	9,775	3,124	8,764
Palm oil	" "	321,482	63,328	82,340	56,400
Sesame seed	" "	58,425	22,606	10,818	20,646
Tea seed oil	" "	5/ 13,159	3,601	141	77
Tucum kernels	" "	5/ 4,218	11,619	30,183	15,919
Tung oil	" "	123,189	133,282	64,968	112,484
Sesame oil:					
Edible	" "	10,651	1,440	255	248
Rapeseed oil:					
Denatured	" "	22,082	3,665	3,905	4,269
Herring oil	" "	10	18,790	16,210	8,140
All others (as oil)	" "	542,433	70,618	35,797	80,115
Total as oil	1,000 lbs.	2,244,764	1,253,957	1,079,474	1,307,098

1/ Imports for consumption. 2/ Revised. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Not separately classified in Foreign Commerce and Navigation. 5/ Average of less than 5 years.

Compiled from official sources.

UNITED STATES: Exports of specified fats, oils, and oilseeds, 1950 with comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1948	1949 1/ 2/	1950 2/
Soybeans	1,000 bu.	3/ 4,793	6,497	23,361	19,110
Soybean oil:					
Refined	" lbs.	4/ (6,467	41,266	208,453	73,649
Crude	" "		41,769	155,528	226,142
Coconut oil:					
Refined	" "	3,789	9,273	4,550	10,696
Crude	" "	10,442	9,820	13,888	13,601
Cottonseed	" "	4/	10,151	15,015	21,628
Cottonseed oil:					
Refined	" "	4,793	22,672	54,337	41,992
Crude	" "	1,515	10,094	62,272	98,223
Flaxseed	" bu.	4/	1,650	3,107	3,557
Linseed oil	" lbs.	1,280	29,636	3,829	24,154
Peanuts:					
Shelled	" "	4/ (452	458,655	349,294	52,288
Unshelled	" "	(	10,594	8,543	1,076
Peanut oil:					
Refined			685	24,636	11,638
Crude		4/5/ (325	0	42,344	27,972
Corn oil:		(			
Refined	" "	4/ (500	97	1,358	1,183
Crude	" "	(	11	773	166
Veg. stearine	" "	4/	1,610	4,765	558
Veg. tallow & wax	" "	4/	1,784	2,677	1,478
Fatty veg. acids	" "	4/	17,615	39,541	52,172
Oleomargarine	" "	180	3,408	2,029	2,434
Cooking fats	" "	2,111	3,522	22,741	10,559
Lard	" "	165,636	271,835	613,698	466,084
Tallow:					
Edible	" "	409	1,377	26,241	6,014
Inedible	" "	3/ 1,552	67,995	367,931	468,614
Neat's foot oil	" "	792	201	629	886
Stearic acid	" "	568	4,323	9,810	6,421
Other animal fats and greases	" "	6,756	15,033	63,546	66,568
Fish oils excluding medicinal	" "	2,467	11,757	38,617	75,974
All others (as oil)	" "	33,020	25,890	27,676	20,803
Total as oil	1,000 lbs.	1/ 285,870	1/ 888,637	1/ 2,236,930	1,991,544

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Average of less than 5 years. 4/ Not separately classified in Foreign Commerce and Navigation. 5/ 1939 only.

Compiled from official sources.

The total United States volume of imports and exports in 1950 was 3,299 million pounds, oil equivalent, slightly less than the 1949 total of 3,316 million pounds. Imports were up 21 percent from 1949. Exports, on the other hand, were down 11 percent.

The reduced imports of castor beans in 1950 were more than offset by a volume of castor oil over 4 times greater than in 1949. Both copra and coconut oil imports were significantly larger than in the previous year. Olive oil imports also were substantially larger partly because of the reduction in the olive oil duty in the spring of 1950. Edible olive oil imports were not only 4 times the tonnage of 1949, but were fully one-fourth greater than prewar. Palm oil imports in 1950 were below those of the 2 previous years. Imports of tung oil, markedly greater than in 1949, were less than prewar by roughly one-tenth.

Exports of soybeans and soybean oil from the United States in 1950 were somewhat less than in 1949, though still in sufficiently large volume (all as crude oil) to comprise with lard and tallow the "Big 3" of the export items for the year. Lard exports in 1950, while down about one-fourth from 1949, were still nearly 3 times larger than prewar. Exports of inedible tallow were abnormally large, probably reflecting the strong demand brought about by the armanents programs of other countries. Peanuts and peanut oil shipments were sharply smaller than in 1949. Cottonseed oil was exported in 1950 in greater volume--about one-fifth--than in 1949. Exports of linseed oil were markedly larger than in 1949 while flaxseed exports were up more than 10 percent. Fish oil, of which the United States is the world's leading producer, was exported in 1950 in volume twice as large as the year before thereby establishing a new record for the second successive year.

THE NETHERLANDS AND INDONESIA CONCLUDE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia concluded a trade agreement during the Second Ministers Conference of the Netherlands-Indonesian Union, which was held in The Hague November 20 to 29, 1950, according to J.W. Vander Laan, American Embassy, Djakarta. During the year which ends September 30, 1951, it was agreed that the Governments of the Netherlands and Indonesia should grant licenses for exports and imports totaling 755 million guilders (approximately $198 million converted at the basic rate of 3.81 guilders to 1 U.S. dollar).

Exports from the Netherlands to Indonesia would include, among numerous other items, margarine, fats and oils (quantity not specified) valued at 215,000 guilders ($56,430) and 110 short tons of linseed oil valued at 215,000 guilders ($56,430).

Indonesian exports would include among other items, copra and cattle cake (quantity and value unspecified), 132,276 tons of copra valued at 120 million guilders ($31,496,000), 82,672, tons of palm oil-82.5 million guilders ($21,653,500), 22,000 tons of palm kernels-14 million guilders ($3,674,500), 11,000 tons of peanuts-10 million guilders ($2,624,670), and an unspecified quantity of miscellaneous oil-bearing seeds valued at 750,000 guilders ($196,850). Regarding copra, if more becomes available Indonesia will consider application for larger quantities.

The quantities indicated are binding for the determination as to whether or not the contingents have been exceeded. The values are binding only in those cases where no quantities are indicated.

The Governments of the Netherlands and Indonesia shall confer in ample time before October 1, 1951, to regulate and establish trade between the 2 countries after that date.

INDONESIAN COPRA EXPORTS
INCREASE IN JANUARY

Exports of copra from Indonesia during January 1951 were reported at 26,752 long tons, (1 long ton equals 1.12 short tons), or more than double the low volume exported in December 1950 of 10,445 tons (revised upward from 9,842 tons). January shipments were consigned to the following countries: Netherlands-17,252 tons; Sweden-5,000; France-3,000; and Switzerland-1,500 tons.

Copra production during the month amounted to 30,644 tons of which 25,038 tons were produced in East Indonesia and 5,606 in West Borneo. Deliveries to domestic oil mills amounted to 9,866 tons. Production during February is forecast at 30,500 tons and exports may reach 34,500 tons.

A new system of purchasing copra has been enacted by the Copra Foundation as of February 1, 1951. Distinction no longer will be made for the 3 grades of copra--sundried, mixed, and inferior; instead, only one price will be offered for mixed copra. The current price of 155 gulden per 100 kilograms ($208.32 per long ton) is guaranteed to producers through March 31.

PHILIPPINE COPRA EXPORTS,
JANUARY 1951

Philippine exports of copra and coconut oil during January 1951 amounted to 55,125 and 7,988 long tons, respectively, or a combined total of 67,804 tons in copra equivalent. This represents an increase of nearly 60 percent from the volume exported in January 1950.

Exports of copra were sent to the following countries: United States-35,240 tons (Pacific 32,340, Atlantic 2,900); Canada-2,750; Belgium-3,900; Italy-2,000; Netherlands-3,100; Norway-1,500; Sweden-2,500; Switzerland-900; other Europe-1,000; Japan-689; South Africa-46; and Israel-1,500.

The United States took 7,840 tons of the coconut oil and Venezuela 148 tons.

The copra export price had increased by mid-February to $277.50 per short ton c.i.f. Pacific Coast. Local buying prices also rose during February to 50-51 pesos per 100 kilos ($254-259.09 per long ton) in Manila and 44-52 pesos ($223.53-$264.17) in producing areas.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

SPAIN'S COTTON IMPORTS RISING

Imports of cotton into Spain during August-December 1950 totaled 136,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) compared with 107,000 for a similar period in 1949, according to James N. Cortada, Consular Attache, American Consulate General, Barcelona. A large reduction in imports from Brazil was more than offset by increases from other countries, especially India, the United States, and Egypt. A rise in consumption offset this increase of imports, however, and aggravated rather than alleviated the short supply situation that has plagued the industry since 1939.

A loan of $62.5 million was recently approved by the United States Export-Import Bank to be used by the Government of Spain for the purchase of United States products and commodities. A portion of this fund was allocated by the Spanish Government for the purchase of cotton.

Considerable effort was exerted by the Government of Spain throughout 1950 to promote increased exports of cotton textiles as a source for foreign exchange needed to buy larger quantities of raw cotton. It is reported that textile exports have occasionally been shipped at a loss to obtain foreign exchange. Although Spain has numerous bilateral trade agreements in which cotton fabrics and yarns are mentioned, it is not believed these have materially enlarged the foreign market since most of them are with traditional purchasers of Spanish textiles. In addition, textile exporters have not always been willing to accept commodities other than cotton in payment.

The latest figures available on cotton piece goods, covering the first 6 months of 1950, show exports of almost 10 million pounds, 76 percent of the total exports for 1949, but only 40 percent of 1948. These exports represented 61 percent of 1949 value and 39 percent of 1948. This would indicate that the promotional efforts have increased the amount of exports over the previous year, but the return in foreign exchange has not increased proportionately.

These efforts accent the basic problem which the Spanish cotton textile industry faces -- dependence upon foreign sources for raw cotton. Production within the country, which was only 12,000 bales of 480 pounds net weight in 1949-50, decreased to 9,000 bales in 1950-51. Acreage declined from 135,000 in 1949-50 to around 60,000 in the current season, but yields per acre are reported to be higher.

SPAIN: Imports of raw cotton from major countries of origin; annual 1948-49 and 1949-50; August-December 1949 and 1950

(Bales of 480 pounds net)

Country	Year beginning August 1		August-December	
	1948	1949	1949	1950
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Argentina	23.8	5.3	1.4	9.9
Brazil	236.0	101.0	64.1	6.3
Egypt	16.6	16.1	10.7	25.5
India	57.0	19.7	6.5	34.2
Iran	1.2	1.6	.8	2.3
Mexico	7.3	.4	.2	1/
Paraguay	1/	5.7	0	0
Turkey	1/	2/	0	4.1
United States	28.9	99.2	23.4	50.0
Others	3.2	3.7	.1	3.6
Total	374.0	252.7	107.2	135.9

1/ If any, included in "Other countries". 2/ Less than 50 bales.

Compiled from "Estadistica del Comercio Exterior de Espana" and Foreign Service Reports.

Mill consumption has increased from 83,000 bales during August through December 1949 to 128,000 bales or by 55 percent during the same 5 months of 1950. Mill operations for several years, however, have been handicapped by shortages of raw cotton and electric power. These cotton shortages existing just prior to 1946 are attributed to conditions resulting from the Spanish Civil War, 1936-39, and conditions associated with World War II, 1939-45. Cotton supply difficulties since that year, however, are attributed mostly to scarcity of foreign exchange.

On December 31, 1950, stocks that had cleared customs and were available for the mills were estimated at about 11,000 bales while stocks in free port, those awaiting clearance by customs were reported at 56,000 bales.

For more than a decade the irregular supply of raw cotton available to the industry, together with frequent periods of severe drought that reduced hydroelectric power, has caused it to operate on a hand-to-mouth basis. These periodic shortages and surpluses have provided the basis for abrupt price fluctuations which have stimulated heavy speculation. Another result of this situation is the inferior products which have been produced by the mills because of the variation in the type and grade of cotton that has been available for spinning.

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound: Spot quotation	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound: Export and intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good	2-22	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	148.10	85.85	1/ 10.42
Ashnouni, FGF	"	"	"	134.10	77.73	1/ 10.42
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	185.10	107.30	1/ 10.42
Karnak, FGF	"	"	"	165.10	95.70	1/ 10.42
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	2-21	784 lbs.	Rupee	2/ 770.00	20.50	21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	2/ 840.00	22.36	21.30
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine	2-22	82.28 lbs.	"	152.00	55.73	23.09
289F Sind, SG, Fine	"	"	"	154.00	56.46	23.09
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	"	"	"	164.00	60.13	23.09
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B	"	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	4550.00	41.28	3.99
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2	2-20	101.4 lbs.	Sol	3/ 755.00	49.80	34.05
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	(not available)		
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	4/ 911.00	60.09	42.48
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4	2-22	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	400.00	65.81	2.4% ad valorem
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	(not available)		
Sao Paulo " 4	"	"	"	430.00	70.74	"
Sao Paulo, Type 5	2-21	"	"	440.00	72.39	3.0% ad valorem
Torreon		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16"	2-21	101.4 lbs.	Peso	570.00	65.00	8.03
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	Market closed	

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Excludes quay dues and municipal tax.
2/ Ceiling price.
3/ For June-July delivery.
4/ For August-September delivery.